



FIVE-YEAR REVIEW REPORT

SCIENTIFIC CHEMICAL PROCESSING SITE

CARLSTADT, BERGEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

Prepared By:
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region II
New York, New York

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U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region II
Emergency and Remedial Response Division
Five-Year Review (Type Ia)

Scientific Chemical Processing Superfund Site
Carlstadt, Bergen County, New Jersey

I. Introduction

Authority Statement. Purpose. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region II conducted this review pursuant to Section 121(c) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act of 1980 (CERCLA), Section 300.430 (f) (4) (ii) of the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (NCP) and OSWER Directives 9355.7-02 (May 23, 1991), 9355.7-02A (1994) and 9355.7-03A (1995). It is a statutory review. The purpose of a five-year review is to ensure that a remedial action remains protective of public health and the environment and is functioning as designed. This document will become part of the Site file. This review (Type Ia) is applicable to a site at which response is ongoing.

Remedial actions are not complete at the Scientific Chemical Processing Site (SCP Site or Site). The remedial action described in the SCP Site's September 14, 1990 Record of Decision (ROD) is an interim remedy designed to reduce the migration of hazardous substances into the ground water and surface water until a permanent site remedy is selected and implemented. The interim remedy has been in place since 1992.

II. Site History and Conditions

The SCP Site, is located at 216 Paterson Plank Road in Carlstadt, New Jersey. The Site was used during the 1970s by Scientific Chemical Processing, Inc. for treatment of a wide variety of industrial chemical wastes. In 1980, operations at the facility were ceased. The site was placed on the National Priorities List in 1983. Between 1983 and 1985, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) required the site owner to remove approximately 250,000 gallons of wastes stored in tanks, which had been abandoned at the site. In April 1985, EPA assumed the lead role in response actions, and contacted approximately 140 Potentially Responsible Parties (PRPs) to offer them the

opportunity to undertake a Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS) at the site. In the fall of 1985, EPA issued Administrative Orders to these parties, requiring them to undertake these studies under EPA oversight.

The RI/FS was conducted to identify the nature and extent of contamination at the SCP site, and to develop remedial alternatives to address the contamination. The results of the investigation indicated that hazardous substances are present in site soils and groundwater. These substances were migrating from the soils and groundwater in the shallow groundwater zone on the SCP property into the underlying groundwater aquifers, as well as into Peach Island Creek, a tidal waterway adjoining the site.

The PRPs also conducted an FS to evaluate potential remedial alternatives for the most heavily contaminated zone at the site, (contaminated soils, sludges and shallow groundwater down to, but not including the clay layer). It was decided that further work was necessary to evaluate treatment technologies for the soils and sludges. Therefore in 1990 EPA issued a Record of Decision for an interim action to temporarily reduce migration of contaminants from the shallow zone until further studies of the site were completed. The interim action consists of site dewatering through installation of a slurry wall, collection of groundwater for off-site treatment and disposal.

IV. SCOPE AND NATURE OF THE FIVE YEAR REVIEW.

EPA determined the appropriate review at this time is a statutory Type 1A review. The final remedial actions have not been taken at the site. Work at the site is on-going. However, the interim remedial action for operable unit one, as described in section III of this document, has been completed and is operational.

Detailed Site inspections of the interim action are performed at the Site property are performed every twelve weeks. During the Site inspections, the site's security fence, gates and locks; the infiltration and ballast tubes; and the groundwater extraction system and appurtenant structures are examined.

The following documents, data and information were examined in completing the Five-year Review:

Record of Decision, Scientific Chemical Processing Site,
September 14, 1990.

Quarterly Operations & Maintenance Reports, Golder Associates.

Final Report Interim Remedy for First Operable Unit, Canonic Environmental, September 1992.

U.S. EPA OSWER Directive 9355.7-02A

U.S. EPA OSWER Directive 9355.7-03A

V. RESULTS OF THE FIVE-YEAR REVIEW

As previously stated, the remedial actions at the site are not complete. However, the interim remedial action for operable unit one has been completed and the following conditions relating to the implementation of the remedy have been achieved. Greatly reduced migration of hazardous substances away from the contaminated soil are.

IV. Statement on Protectiveness

The remedy is not at this time protective of human health and the environment. EPA is taking steps to make the remedy protective. The areas burned through the cap will be patched and the holes in the fencing repaired.

V. Next Five-Year Review

The next five-year review will be conducted by June 25, 2003.